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Cooperation between the United Nations and regional and other organizations

Note verbale dated 15 April 2013 from the Permanent Mission of Cuba to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

The Permanent Mission of the Republic of Cuba to the United Nations, in its capacity as President pro tempore of the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States (CELAC), presents its compliments to the Executive Office of the Secretary-General of the United Nations and has the honour to request that the outcome documents of the first CELAC Summit, held in Santiago, Chile, on 27 and 28 January 2013, copies of which are enclosed herewith (see annex), be circulated as a document of the General Assembly under agenda item 121, entitled "Cooperation between the United Nations and regional and other organizations".

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Annex to the note verbale dated 15 April 2013 from the Permanent Mission of Cuba to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Santiago Declaration of the first CELAC Summit

1. We, the Heads of State and Government of the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States (CELAC), aware of the historical significance of this first Summit, which brings all the Latin American and Caribbean countries together into a single regional body, have gathered in Santiago, Chile, on 27 and 28 January 2013, for the purpose of further strengthening the political, economic, social and cultural unity and integration of our region.

2. We reaffirm the Declaration of the Unity Summit of Latin America and the Caribbean, adopted in the Riviera Maya, Cancun, Mexico, on 23 February 2010, which reflected the principles, values and experiences developed both in the framework of the Latin American and Caribbean Summits, launched in December 2008 in Salvador de Bahia, and over the 25-year existence of the Rio Group. We consider that this background and historical heritage has enabled us to identify and undertake the shared challenges of Latin American and Caribbean unity and integration that we are addressing through CELAC; as a result of the process of convergence between the Latin American and Caribbean Summit on Integration and Development and the Rio Group, the decision was taken to establish the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States (CELAC).

3. We reaffirm the Caracas Declaration, "On the Bicentenary of the Struggle for Independence: Towards the Path of Our Liberators", adopted in Caracas, Venezuela, on 3 December 2011, which includes the Caracas Action Plan and the rules of procedure of CELAC as an integral part of the Declaration.

4. We reaffirm the continued validity of the historical heritage of CELAC, consisting of the declarations, special communiqués and other instruments embodying the decisions adopted during the Rio Group and Latin American and Caribbean Summit on Integration and Development processes. On the 180th anniversary of the occupation of the Malvinas Islands by the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, we recall that this heritage includes the region's support for Argentina's protests against this territorial occupation.

5. We highlight the launching of CELAC as a milestone in the history of Latin America and the Caribbean, as it brings all 33 countries of the region together into a permanent mechanism for dialogue and consultation that is taking shape as a political forum and stakeholder, for the purpose of advancing the process of political, economic, social and cultural integration, while striking the necessary balance between unity and diversity.

6. We reaffirm our conviction that decisions reached by consensus within a multilateral framework are the cornerstone of an effective international order that can contribute to world peace and security. Accordingly, we reject unilateral measures with extraterritorial effects that are contrary to international law and that may pose a threat to multilateralism.

7. At this first CELAC Summit, we pay special tribute to the Heads of State who presided over the historic Summits of our region, at which the foundations were laid

for the operation of CELAC: Mr. Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva, former President of the Federative Republic of Brazil, who gave a strong impetus to the Latin American and Caribbean Summit on Integration and Development in Costa do Sauípe, Bahia, on 16 and 17 December 2008; Mr. Felipe Calderón, former President of the United Mexican States, who presided over the Unity Summit of Latin America and the Caribbean in the Riviera Maya on 23 February 2010; and Mr. Hugo Chávez Frías, President of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, who presided over the Caracas Summit, consisting of the third Latin American and Caribbean Summit on Integration and Development and the twenty-second Summit of the Rio Group, in Caracas on 2 and 3 December 2011, when CELAC was launched. We wish to express our gratitude for their contribution to these major regional initiatives.

We express our deepest and most fraternal solidarity with the Venezuelan people and their President, Mr. Hugo Chávez Frías, to whom we wish a full and speedy recovery.

We also highlight and recall the achievements of Mr. Leonel Fernández Reyna, former President of the Dominican Republic, in his efforts to promote integration and peace, as well as the active role he played as Chair of the Rio Group.

8. We note the important agreement reached during the first year of operation of CELAC to include the State acting as Chair of the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) as a full member of the Troika, in recognition of the fact that its perspective broadens and strengthens the plurality of our community and of the historical role played by CARICOM countries in the comprehensive development of the Latin American and Caribbean region.

9. We believe that the unity and integration of our region should be built gradually, with respect for pluralism and for the sovereign right of each of our peoples to choose its own form of political and economic organization. We reiterate that our Community is founded on unqualified respect for international law; the peaceful settlement of disputes; the prohibition of the threat or use of force; respect for self-determination, sovereignty and territorial integrity; non-interference in the internal affairs of States; protection and promotion of all human rights; national and international rule of law; and democracy. Accordingly, we pledge to work together for the sake of prosperity for all, with a view to eradicating discrimination, inequalities, exclusion, human rights violations and transgressions against the rule of law.

10. We reaffirm that democracy, sustainable development and respect for all civil, political, economic, social and cultural human rights, including the right to development, are universal, indivisible, interdependent, interrelated and mutually reinforcing.

11. We agree on the importance of adopting a set of economic and social indicators for periodically assessing the situation in the region, particularly with regard to social progress. We appreciate the strong support received from the United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) for the development of such indicators.

12. It is our understanding that CELAC will be based on permanent dialogue and will not overlap with or duplicate other regional and subregional experiences or institutions, that it will be grounded in the principle of complementarity and that it

will seek to achieve optimal results so as to attain inclusive, solidarity-based development in the Latin American and Caribbean States.

13. In the spirit of strengthening the regional and subregional integration mechanisms, we welcome the positive developments observed in the Latin American Integration Association (LAIA), the Bolivarian Alliance for the Peoples of Our America (ALBA), the Pacific Alliance, the Southern Common Market (MERCOSUR) and the Secretariat for Central American Economic Integration (SIECA), as well as the incorporation of various CELAC member States into these subregional entities, all of which will further our progress in fulfilling the values, purposes and principles of our Community.

14. We undertake to strengthen the climate of peace that prevails in Latin America and the Caribbean and to consolidate the entire region's status as a zone of peace, in which differences between nations are settled peacefully through dialogue and negotiation or by other means, in full conformity with international law.

15. We renew our support for the ongoing process of dialogue between the Government of Colombia and the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC) aimed at putting an end to the internal conflict that has affected the political, social and economic development of that sister nation for more than 50 years, and we express the hope that this initiative will have a successful outcome that leads to an agreement in the interest of the Colombian people.

16. We welcome the outcome of the seventh Ministerial Meeting of the Zone of Peace and Cooperation of the South Atlantic, held in Montevideo on 15 January 2013 and attended by representatives of 24 countries of South America and southern Africa.

17. Considering the importance of working together to advance the comprehensive development of the Republic of Haiti, we reaffirm the resolution on special cooperation with the Republic of Haiti that was adopted at the first Meeting of Ministers for Foreign Affairs of CELAC, and call upon Governments to continue to contribute in the ways that best meet the specific needs of that sister Republic in its pursuit of development through concrete actions pursuant to the National Strategic Development Plan of the Haitian Government, and to foster sustainable development in the country, following and strengthening the principles of South-South and triangular cooperation.

18. We note that in this foundational year of CELAC, important international activities have taken place, in particular the visit of the Ministerial Troika to India and the People's Republic of China; the meetings of the extended Troika of CELAC Ministers with the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Korea, the People's Republic of China, the Russian Federation and the Cooperation Council for the Arab States of the Gulf, held in New York at the opening of the sixty-seventh session of the United Nations General Assembly; and the meetings of the CELAC Troika, at the level of national coordinators, with senior officials from New Zealand, Australia and Norway, held in Santiago. All these meetings have made it possible to establish a dialogue with countries or groups of countries, fostering permanent interaction with other relevant stakeholders of the international community, which will enhance the effectiveness of CELAC in coordinating the region's international positions on issues of interest to all its members and will contribute to the

achievement of reciprocal benefits in the exercise of cooperation and of political and economic relations with other nations.

19. We stress the importance of improving intra-CELAC coordination in its relations with other regions and countries, and instruct the Ministers for Foreign Affairs to coordinate efforts for the creation of a CELAC-China cooperation forum and to submit a report on the issue at our next regular Summit.

20. We express deep concern about the situation in Syria. We remain hopeful that an agreement will be reached, without undue external interference, for a peaceful and lasting solution to the serious crisis in that country, including the humanitarian emergency caused by the high number of refugees and displaced persons. We stress the need for a ceasefire that will make it possible to launch an inclusive political process led by the Syrian people with the strong support of the international community. We urge the United Nations Secretary-General, the Security Council and the international community to redouble their diplomatic efforts to put an end to the violence in Syria. In that regard, we reiterate our support for the actions being taken by the mission of the Joint Special Representative of the United Nations and the League of Arab States for Syria, which has the potential to end the violence and achieve a solution centred on the welfare of the Syrian people and the stability of the Syrian Arab Republic, with full respect for the sovereignty, independence, unity and territorial integrity of that country and in compliance with the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations.

21. We highlight the Latin American and Caribbean character of Puerto Rico and, in light of the resolutions on Puerto Rico adopted by the United Nations Special Committee on decolonization, consider this issue to be of interest to CELAC.

22. We welcome the first CELAC-European Union Summit, held in Santiago, Chile, on 26 and 27 January 2013, as well as the documentation adopted under the theme "Alliance for Sustainable Development: Promoting Investments of Social and Environmental Quality".

23. We emphasize the development of the CELAC forum for strengthening complementarity and avoiding duplication between integration mechanisms in the region, in the conviction that their interaction, based on the principles of solidarity and cooperation, is essential for the Community's consolidation. We appreciate the steadfast and ongoing collaboration of regional and subregional integration mechanisms and of international organizations in this foundational year.

24. We strongly reject the unilateral and illegitimate assessments, lists and certifications, in particular those concerning terrorism, drug trafficking, human trafficking and related matters, that have been made by certain developed countries and that affect countries of the region.

25. We emphasize the need to intensify and diversify connectivity among the CELAC member countries in terms of air and sea transport, and reiterate that synergies should be identified in order to strengthen cooperation. To that end, we encourage the consideration of initiatives to improve connectivity between the Caribbean, Mesoamerica and South America. CELAC has a role to play in complementarity with the projects currently under way.

26. We highlight the outcome and the workplan of the first Ministerial Meeting on Infrastructure. We reaffirm that in the integration of physical infrastructure, as well

as in other areas, the wider project of Latin American and Caribbean integration will benefit from the strengthening of regional and subregional programmes such as the Infrastructure and Planning Council of the Union of South American Nations (UNASUR), the Mesoamerica Project and CARICOM. CELAC has a role to play in complementarity with the projects currently under way.

27. We highlight the region's progress in developing schemes for expanding, promoting and regulating international trade in energy products, with a view to the gradual formation of a regional energy space that combines the use of market and cooperation mechanisms, thereby making a positive impact on the quality of life in our countries. We also reaffirm the need to give greater impetus to regional energy integration; the importance of having a socially inclusive, safe, reliable, solidarity-based, competitive and environmentally friendly energy supply; and the decision to move forward in the creation of a regime for facilitating the free movement of energy in the region, while respecting the countries' legal and regulatory frameworks.

28. We stress the efforts made by the member States at both the national and regional levels to make progress in addressing and confronting the world drug problem. We also express concern about the constant threat that this problem poses, in all its dimensions, for the well-being and development of our peoples. Likewise, we underline the vital importance of studies and discussions on the achievements and limitations of current policies to address these problems and the identification of more effective strategies to meet the challenges that this phenomenon represents for our countries. In the meantime, we call for the strengthening of the regional and global security strategies implemented by the member States.

29. We support the convening of a special session of the United Nations General Assembly on the world drug problem, based on relevant United Nations conventions and other instruments, in order to assess the achievements and limitations of current policies for addressing this issue, in particular the violence generated by the use, trafficking and production of drugs throughout the world, as well as to identify actions for enhancing the effectiveness of the strategies and instruments with which the international community is confronting the challenge of the world drug problem.

30. We underscore the importance of the convening by CELAC of the symposium "Progress and challenges in scientific research on treatments, pharmacological strategies and vaccines against drug addiction" in the foundational year. The member countries undertake to play an active role, in conformity with their domestic legislation, in providing support and funding for the work of researchers from the countries members of CELAC, with a view to making progress in scientific research on vaccines, antidotes, medications and treatments for drug addiction.

31. We call upon the countries to accede to the Protocol to Eliminate Illicit Trade in Tobacco Products, adopted at the fifth session of the Conference of the Parties to the Framework Convention on Tobacco Control, held in Seoul, Republic of Korea, in November 2012.

32. We reaffirm our commitment to mutually advantageous integration, solidarity and cooperation among the members of our Community, in particular with vulnerable and less developed countries. We also support cooperation initiatives between CELAC and groups of countries or other developing countries through South-South and triangular cooperation, as a complement to, not a substitute for,

North-South cooperation, in order to cope with the global crisis and promote the sustainable development of our countries. In this regard, we affirm the need for CELAC to adopt a set of principles and rules to ensure that intraregional and extraregional cooperation will result in tangible benefits for the countries of our Community and that it will be carried out in accordance with the development strategies, plans and programmes freely chosen by those countries.

33. We commend the establishment of the CELAC Working Group on International Cooperation and call upon it to advance towards the construction of a South-South and triangular cooperation policy that reflects the region's identity, helps to reduce regional asymmetries, promotes sustainable development and is linked to the cooperation entities already existing in the region.

34. We call upon traditional donors and international financial institutions to cooperate with developing countries in accordance with their national priorities and strategies, in order to achieve social and economic development through the provision, among other elements, of debt relief, concessional aid and donations to support national efforts to improve fiscal space, especially in the least developed countries, as well as the review and redefinition of the graduation criteria for middle-income countries in international cooperation schemes to ensure that they do not impose conditions that restrict the room for manoeuvre of national Governments.

35. We appreciate the helpful attitude of the members of the Forum of Ministers of Culture of Latin America and the Caribbean, one of the oldest forums on cultural matters that include Latin America and the Caribbean, which endorsed, at a meeting of its Executive Committee, the holding of the first Meeting of Ministers of Culture of CELAC together with the nineteenth Forum of Ministers of Culture of Latin America and the Caribbean. We welcome the agreement by the Republic of Suriname to host the first Meeting of Ministers of Culture of CELAC in Paramaribo on 14 and 15 March 2013, in accordance with the Caracas Declaration.

36. We reiterate our support for the proclamation by the United Nations, in December 2012, of the International Decade for People of African Descent. We welcome, in particular, the inclusion in its programme of the creation of a permanent forum for people of African descent and the development of a universal declaration of the rights of people of African descent, among other ongoing initiatives.

37. We declare the need to take steps to recover and protect the rights of indigenous peoples and local and tribal communities to their "traditional knowledge", which has arbitrarily been registered by individuals and companies. We support the negotiations taking place on this issue within the competent multilateral forums.

38. We welcome the convening of the first CELAC Meeting on Migration, held on 20 and 21 August 2012 in Comayagua, Republic of Honduras, and highlight the recommendations made at that event, which lay the foundations for developing, in that regional forum, a CELAC strategy on migration based on the perspective of migrants as subjects of rights and articulating a common regional position with respect to processes of dialogue with other regional and global forums.

We highlight the compilation of the first statistical compendium on migration between CELAC and European Union countries, which will enhance understanding of the migratory flows between the two regions.

39. We reiterate our commitment to promote the food and nutrition security of our populations. We recognize that the main cause of hunger is poverty and that, to overcome it, it is necessary to coordinate actions related to the productive inclusion of small family farmers, international trade and access to public health and education services, among others, through the continued support of various regional organizations, mechanisms and agencies. We highlight the recent report of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), which states that the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean are the ones that have made the most progress in food and nutrition security policies, although 49 million people still suffer from hunger in the region. We note with satisfaction the proposals for cooperation between FAO and CELAC. We renew our commitment to strengthen integration processes in the area of food and to join forces in support of the "Hunger-Free Latin America and the Caribbean 2025" initiative. We also express our support for the "Zero Hunger Challenge" proposed at the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20), which recognizes adequate food as a human right.

40. We stress the need for the exchange of information on successful national experiences and lessons learned in the area of science, technology and innovation. We reiterate the importance of technology transfer and facilitation of access to scientific knowledge in order to promote intra-CELAC and South-South cooperation with third countries on regional issues such as, among others, clean fuels and green energy, crop and livestock production, human resources development, HIV/AIDS, malaria and tuberculosis, biotechnology, education, infrastructure development, communication technology and marine scientific research.

41. We reiterate that CELAC is an important mechanism for promoting the interests of developing countries in multilateral organizations in order to build our capacity to react in a coordinated manner to the challenges of a world undergoing profound economic and political change. We reiterate our commitment to strengthen CELAC as a means of promoting and projecting the interests and concerns of Latin America and the Caribbean regarding the main issues on the international agenda. To that end, we reaffirm our commitment to harmonize and coordinate our positions, where possible, at international meetings and conferences that are global in scope. In that regard, we highlight the efforts made by the Permanent Representatives of the States members of CELAC to the United Nations, who have agreed on an internal mechanism for joint participation in the discussions of the various committees in which the consensual position of CELAC is put forward. Accordingly, we pledge to strengthen coordination efforts at the main United Nations offices, including the encouragement of joint initiatives on issues of interest to the region.

42. In order to promote inclusive and non-discriminatory global governance, and with the determination to contribute towards building a world of peace, security and development, we renew our countries' commitment to multilateralism, comprehensive reform of the United Nations system and democratization of international decision-making bodies, in particular the Security Council.

43. We reiterate the right of developing countries to nominate candidates for key positions in the international system. We also reiterate that CELAC is well placed to nominate and endorse qualified consensus candidates for key positions in international organizations that are global in scope.

44. We recognize the value and the contribution to international peace and security of the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (Tlatelolco Treaty) and the Protocols thereto, which established the first densely populated nuclear-weapon-free zone on the planet. In this regard, we reaffirm the need to advance towards the priority goal of nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation and to achieve and maintain a world free of nuclear weapons. We call upon the nuclear Powers to withdraw their reservations and interpretative declarations with regard to the Protocols to the Treaty and to respect the denuclearized status of the Latin American and Caribbean region.

45. We reaffirm the special communiqué on the total elimination of nuclear weapons adopted at the Caracas Summit on 3 December 2011. In this connection, we emphasize our commitment to participate actively and to present a common position within the framework of the high-level meeting of the United Nations General Assembly on nuclear disarmament, to be held in New York on 26 September 2013.

46. In this connection, we call for the convening, at the earliest possible opportunity, of a conference for the establishment of a zone free of nuclear weapons and other weapons of mass destruction in the Middle East, as agreed in 1995, 2000 and 2010 by the parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons.

47. We reaffirm the commitment of our States to the Non-Proliferation Treaty and to its three main pillars: nuclear disarmament, non-proliferation and the peaceful use of nuclear energy. In this regard, we consider that the existence of nuclear weapons remains a serious threat to mankind. We express our strong support for the conclusion of legally binding instruments that will lead to effective, irreversible and verifiable nuclear disarmament, in order to achieve the goal of completely eliminating all nuclear weapons within well-defined time limits. We also reaffirm the inalienable right of States to develop research, production and use of nuclear energy for peaceful purposes without discrimination and in conformity with articles I, II, III and IV of the Non-Proliferation Treaty.

48. We stress the need to promote the full implementation of the United Nations Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects and to support efforts to restrict the illegal flow of such weapons and ammunition, particularly in Latin America and the Caribbean.

49. We express our support for the conclusion of the negotiations on a legally binding Arms Trade Treaty, to be adopted on the basis of United Nations General Assembly resolution 67/234, that is fully consistent with the Charter of the United Nations, while taking into account the right of States to produce, import and possess arms for their legitimate defence and security needs. Those negotiations will be concluded through the convening of a final United Nations Conference on the Arms Trade Treaty from 18 to 28 March 2013. We trust that the Arms Trade Treaty will help to prevent and combat the illicit arms trade and to reduce the human cost of the poorly regulated international trade in conventional weapons, including small arms, light weapons and ammunition.

50. We likewise stress the importance of advancing towards the elimination of anti-personnel mines as soon as possible, in accordance with the commitments undertaken by the States parties to the Ottawa Convention.

51. We reaffirm our commitment to step up efforts to combat transnational organized crime in accordance with international law. In that connection, we encourage the adoption of strategic, dynamic and holistic responses to combat transnational organized crime. In this context, we encourage interlinkage and greater coordination of operational and cooperation efforts for promoting institution-building in relation to the prevention, investigation and prosecution of transnational organized crime. We further consider that it is necessary to apply best practices and to explore new methods and approaches for combating this scourge.

52. We express deep concern at existing threats and challenges, including the current multifactorial international crisis, which, although originating in developed countries, has had a negative impact on our countries' efforts to achieve sustainable economic and social growth and development. We call upon the international community to take urgent steps to address systemic fragilities and imbalances and to pursue efforts to reform and strengthen the international financial system, including, inter alia, financial market regulation and observance of commitments regarding cooperation and reform of the international financial institutions. We undertake to work together to meet the challenges of a weakened international economy and to strive to promote sustained, dynamic and long-term growth rates in the region that will pave the way for increasing social equity, inclusion and integration in Latin America and the Caribbean.

53. We note that our countries' shared economic and financial experiences and characteristics provide us with an opportunity to promote dialogue in this area, to identify actions that will allow us to prevent and, where appropriate, to address external shocks in a coordinated manner, and to foster sustainable development in the region.

54. Considering the consequences that the current economic and financial crisis has had for the world, we reaffirm our commitment to internationally agreed objectives, including the Millennium Development Goals and the sustainable development goals that are being defined on the basis of the Rio+20 Conference. In addition, we support the mandate agreed upon at the Rio+20 Conference for the development of a set of sustainable development goals and the establishment of an Open Working Group on Sustainable Development Goals and an intergovernmental committee of experts on an effective sustainable development financing strategy, without diverting effort from the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals. In this regard, we emphasize that it is important for the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean to engage in an in-depth process of reflection on the region's priorities for the development agenda beyond 2015 and to work towards integration of the three dimensions of sustainable development.

55. We highlight the importance of ensuring that the objectives of the development agenda beyond 2015 are voluntary, universal, clear, measurable and adaptable to different national realities, with a view to poverty eradication and the promotion of sustainable development. This new framework should be inclusive and transparent, should foster the fulfilment of the developed countries' commitments with respect to official development assistance and should promote South-South and triangular cooperation on cross-cutting issues, with the participation of all sectors of society.

56. We reiterate our commitment to eradicate hunger and poverty in the region and, in this regard, reaffirm the Declaration of the first Meeting of Ministers of Latin America and the Caribbean on Social Development and Eradication of Hunger and

Poverty, adopted in the framework of the Latin American and Caribbean Summit on Integration and Development (March 2011), and the special communiqués on food and nutrition security and against financial speculation and the excessive volatility in food prices, adopted in the framework of the foundational Summit of CELAC, held in Caracas in December 2011.

57. We highlight the convening of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20) and recognize the importance of the results achieved in the outcome document "The future we want". We renew our commitment to sustainable development and to the promotion of an economically, socially and environmentally sustainable future for our planet and for present and future generations. We reaffirm the overall objective of sustainable development and the Rio principles, especially the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities, and the fact that none of the instruments adopted in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication should constitute a means of arbitrary discrimination or a disguised restriction on international trade.

58. Likewise, in the framework of Rio+20, we welcome the outcome of the most recent session of the intergovernmental negotiating committee, a process chaired by Uruguay, at which a global legally binding instrument on mercury was adopted, containing irrevocable commitments on the protection of human and environmental health.

59. We note the decisions taken at the eighteenth Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, held in Doha. We welcome the formal adoption of the second commitment period under the Kyoto Protocol. We note that a lack of political will on the part of several developed nations prevented the achievement of agreements on new, additional and predictable financing and on mechanisms for the effective transfer of technologies to developing countries. We further recognize the launching of negotiations by the Ad Hoc Working Group on the Durban Platform and reaffirm our determination to adopt, by 2015, a protocol, another legal instrument or an agreed outcome with legal force under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change that will take effect and be implemented as from 2020 and will be applicable to all parties and guided by the principles of the Convention, in line with the outcomes of the Cancun (2010), Durban (2011) and Doha (2012) Conferences, with a view to reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

60. We appreciate the initiatives taken for the regional implementation of principle 10 of the 1992 Rio Declaration, regarding the right of access to information, participation and environmental justice, as a significant contribution to the participation of community organizations committed to sustainable development.

61. Recognizing the principles of complementarity, cooperation, flexibility, sovereignty and voluntary participation underlying the actions of CELAC, we adopt in all its aspects the "Viña del Mar Declaration" agreed upon at the first Meeting of Ministers of Finance of CELAC, held on 14 December 2012.

62. We are aware of the fragility of the international economic and financial situation and the risks it poses for the maintenance of our countries' achievements in terms of social inclusion, growth with equity, sustainable development and regional integration. While it is important to recognize that the crisis has had a lesser effect on Latin America and the Caribbean as compared to the rest of the world, we will

work together to meet the challenges of a weakened international economy and will strive to promote sustained, dynamic, inclusive and long-term growth rates in the region.

63. We reaffirm the importance of having a strong, influential regional voice that reflects the growing weight of the emerging economies in development and in the global economy, while ensuring equitable representation of all member countries in the international financial institutions.

64. We consider it necessary to develop tools for strengthening the international financial system, which should include stricter and more effective regulation of large financial entities and the adoption of concrete measures for instituting international best practices in international financial flows. Accordingly, it is very important to reduce excessive reliance on the assessments of credit-risk rating agencies and to adopt instruments for achieving reasonable final settlements between debtors and creditors, and to provide for stability and predictability in sovereign debt restructuring processes.

65. While stimulus measures for developed economies are welcome, we express concern about monetary expansion in those countries and its effects on the region, in particular the quantitative easing implemented in those economies, given the pressure it exerts on the value of our currencies, which is affecting the competitiveness of the vast majority of countries in our region. We urge those economies to consider, in their analysis and decision-making, the consequences of their actions for countries that are still on the path to development.

66. We recognize the need to promote global trade through an ambitious, comprehensive and balanced agreement based on the Doha Round negotiations of the World Trade Organization (WTO), in accordance with their development-centred mandate. We emphasize the need to continue the agricultural reform process agreed upon in the Uruguay Round and reflected in the Doha agricultural mandate. Progress in that reform process is crucial for achieving the necessary balance in development-centred multilateral trade negotiations. Therefore, we urge the members of WTO to continue to negotiate on the basis of those mandates.

67. We express concern about the growing proliferation of trade-distorting barriers, including sanitary and phytosanitary barriers, without scientific justification, which is eroding market access, especially for exports from developing countries, in particular by small-scale producers. We call for the full implementation of WTO agreements in this area, particularly with regard to technical barriers that hinder technological innovation in agricultural production, with a consequent impact on food security.

68. We recommend that the Working Group established at the first Meeting of Ministers of Economic Affairs and Finance of CELAC conduct a study on the feasibility of implementing a Latin American and Caribbean dispute settlement mechanism for the purpose of resolving intra- and extra-Community investment disputes.

69. We instruct the national coordinators to adopt, at their first meeting, the 2013 Santiago Plan of Action.

70. We thank the Republic of Cuba for serving as President pro tempore of CELAC in 2013 and for agreeing to host the second CELAC Summit in 2014.

71. We thank the Republic of Costa Rica for agreeing to serve as President pro tempore of CELAC in 2014 and to host the third CELAC Summit.

72. We thank the Republic of Ecuador for agreeing to serve as President pro tempore of CELAC in 2015 and to host the fourth CELAC Summit.

73. The Heads of State and Government of CELAC express their appreciation to the President of the Republic of Chile for presiding over the foundational year of the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States, and thank the people and Government of Chile for hosting the first CELAC Summit in Santiago on 27 and 28 January 2013.

Santiago, Chile, 28 January 2013

Decision adopted by the Heads of State and Government of the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States (CELAC) on enlargement of the Troika

The Heads of State and Government, considering that, in the Caracas Declaration of 3 December 2011, they acknowledged the historical role played by the countries of the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) in the process of liberation, development and integration in Latin America and the Caribbean, and emphasized the continued commitment of CARICOM and the Caribbean peoples to contribute to the comprehensive and sustainable development of the region,

Bearing in mind the agreements reached by the Heads of State and Government of the Latin American and Caribbean countries in the Caracas Declaration, "On the Bicentenary of the Struggle for Independence: Towards the Path of Our Liberators",

Decide:

1. To include CARICOM, represented by its Chair, as a full member of the extended Troika of the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States (CELAC);

2. To replace paragraph 6.1 of the rules of procedure of CELAC, which states, "The Presidency Pro Tempore shall be assisted by a troika consisting of the State acting as the President Pro Tempore, the State that previously held that responsibility and the State that will be the next to act as President Pro Tempore", with a paragraph 6.1 that reads as follows:

"The Presidency pro tempore shall be assisted by an extended Troika consisting of the State acting as the President pro tempore, the State that previously held that responsibility and the State that will be the next to act as President pro tempore, plus a State member of CARICOM, represented by the State acting as its Chair";

3. To replace, in the text of the rules of procedure of CELAC, the word "troika" with "extended Troika", except in paragraph 2 under chapter IX, "Transitional provisions";

4. To implement this enlargement of the Troika with effect from today's date and to adopt the above amendments to the text of the rules of procedure of CELAC.

Santiago, Chile, 28 January 2013

Rules of procedure of the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States (CELAC)

Adopted by the Heads of State and Government of CELAC

Caracas, 3 December 2011

Paragraph numbering adopted at the first Meeting of Ministers for Foreign Affairs of CELAC

New York, 27 September 2012

We, the Heads of State and Government of the countries members of CELAC,

1. Highlighting our commitment to achieving agreement and convergence in order to carry out joint actions in defence of the abiding interests of our States,

2. Determined to build a common space in order to strengthen the political, economic, social and cultural integration of our region, to revitalize and strengthen regional unity by establishing goals and mechanisms compatible with the actual situation in the region, and to develop ties of solidarity and cooperation among the Latin American and Caribbean countries,

3. Expressing, in order to carry out such joint actions, our renewed belief in the validity of the shared principles and expressions of consensus that are part of the historical heritage of CELAC, as reflected in all the declarations and communiqués of the Permanent Mechanism for Consultation and Concerted Political Action (Rio Group) and the Latin American and Caribbean Summit on Integration and Development (CALC) since their respective beginnings,

4. Reaffirming our irrevocable commitment to peace, to strengthening democracy and to fostering the social and economic development of our peoples, and convinced that greater integration among our nations is a guarantee for achieving those aspirations and promoting peaceful coexistence among our nations,

5. Determined to continue to encourage home-grown solutions to shared problems and to raise the profile and strengthen the negotiating capacity of our countries vis-à-vis the international community,

6. Reaffirming the Declaration of the Unity Summit of Latin America and the Caribbean, adopted in the Riviera Maya, Mexico, on 23 February 2010, which is the founding document of CELAC,

Hereby adopt the following procedures for the basic operation of CELAC:

I. Bodies

CELAC shall consist of the following bodies:

1. Summit of Heads of State and Government
2. Meeting of Ministers for Foreign Affairs
3. Presidency pro tempore
4. Meeting of national coordinators
5. Special meetings
6. Extended Troika.

1. Summit of Heads of State and Government

1.1 The Summit of Heads of State and Government shall be the supreme body of the Community. It shall be convened on a regular basis in the country currently acting as President pro tempore of CELAC, and on an extraordinary basis when the President pro tempore so decides, in consultation with the member States. The President pro tempore may convene extraordinary Summits and meetings in consultation with the extended Troika.

1.2 The Summit shall be responsible for:

(a) Designating the State that shall host the next meeting and serve as President pro tempore of CELAC;

(b) Defining policy guidelines and principles and establishing priorities, strategies and action plans to achieve the objectives of CELAC;

(c) Adopting policy guidelines and strategies for relations with third States or with other international, regional or subregional intergovernmental organizations or forums;

(d) Adopting such procedural and other amendments as may be necessary for the operation of CELAC;

(e) Promoting citizen participation in CELAC.

2. Meeting of Ministers for Foreign Affairs

2.1 The Meeting of Ministers for Foreign Affairs shall be convened on a regular basis twice a year and may be convened on an extraordinary basis as required, at the request of a member State.

2.2 The Meeting shall be responsible for:

(a) Adopting resolutions and issuing statements on regional or international issues of interest to the countries of the region;

(b) Adopting resolutions to implement the decisions and declarations of the Summit of Heads of State and Government;

(c) Adopting draft declarations and decisions to be adopted at the Summit of Heads of State and Government;

(d) Conducting the preparatory process for the Summits of Heads of State and Government;

(e) Coordinating the adoption of common positions among the member countries at multilateral meetings and international policy and negotiating forums to advance the Latin American and Caribbean agenda;

(f) Deciding on the establishment of open-ended working groups, whether permanent or temporary, to achieve the Meeting's objectives;

(g) Promoting and engaging in political dialogue and consensus-building on issues of interest to CELAC;

(h) Identifying and adopting the issues of priority interest to CELAC, as well as the studies and working groups that provide legal and technical input on those issues;

(i) Monitoring and analysing the entire process of unity and integration, monitoring and implementing the declarations and decisions of the Summit of Heads of State and Government, and enhancing unity and cooperation for the development of our peoples;

(j) Monitoring and evaluating the implementation of action plans;

(k) Adopting the biennial work programme of CELAC activities, which may include special meetings;

(l) Implementing policy guidelines and strategies for relations with other governmental actors and international organizations;

(m) Delegating functions and responsibilities to such bodies and working groups as may be established to carry out specific tasks, as required;

(n) Proposing the regulations of CELAC and any amendments thereto, taking the Community's historical heritage into account;

(o) Adopting such programmes, projects and initiatives on integration, cooperation, complementarity and development as may be proposed to the Meeting by member States, and submitting them to the Summit of Heads of State and Government for adoption;

(p) Fostering communication, complementarity, cooperation and interlinkage among the subregional integration mechanisms, and receiving and considering the outcomes of meetings held by those mechanisms at the request of the President pro tempore, using their institutional structures for that purpose;

(q) Coordinating and promoting common positions on central issues of interest to CELAC.

3. Presidency pro tempore

3.1 For the 2011-2012 and 2012-2013 periods, the Presidency pro tempore shall be held for one-year periods and Summit meetings shall be convened in 2012 and 2013. At the 2013 Summit, the Heads of State and Government shall decide on the frequency of the Summits and the term of the Presidency pro tempore.

3.2 The Presidency pro tempore shall provide institutional, technical and administrative support to CELAC and its functions shall include:

(a) Preparing, convening and presiding over the Summits of Heads of State and Government, the Meetings of Ministers for Foreign Affairs, the meetings of national coordinators and meetings of regional and subregional integration mechanisms;

(b) Implementing the decisions of the Summit of Heads of State and Government and the Meeting of Ministers for Foreign Affairs;

(c) Ensuring continuity and follow-up of the Community's work and keeping member States informed;

(d) Organizing and coordinating the meetings of CELAC;

(e) Coordinating the ongoing activities of CELAC;

(f) Submitting the biennial work programme of CELAC activities, with the dates, venues and agendas of meetings of its bodies, for consideration at the Summit of Heads of State and Government, the Meeting of Ministers for Foreign Affairs and the meeting of national coordinators;

(g) Following up on the agreements reached at each meeting;

(h) Preparing working papers on issues of interest to CELAC;

(i) Issuing, registering and organizing official documents and messages and maintaining official communication with member States;

(j) Serving as custodian of the Community's legacy, as well as that of the Rio Group and CALC;

(k) Supporting the CELAC bodies in the discharge of their functions;

(l) Preparing and presenting the annual report and the respective reports to the various CELAC bodies;

(m) Preparing and presenting the minutes at the end of each meeting;

(n) Ensuring that all official documents are submitted to all member States in a timely manner and in all the official languages of CELAC;

(o) The Presidency pro tempore may convene meetings of the regional and subregional integration mechanisms to share information, coordinate their tasks, avoid duplication and intensify dialogue in order to foster unity and integration and accelerate regional development in areas of priority for CELAC.

3.3 The State hosting the Presidency pro tempore shall bear the expenses incurred for its operation.

3.4 The State hosting the Presidency pro tempore shall create and maintain an official CELAC website, on which it shall post the statements issued by CELAC, among other materials.

4. Meeting of national coordinators

4.1 Member States shall liaise with the Presidency pro tempore through the national coordinators, who shall be responsible for coordination and direct follow-up on the issues under consideration.

4.2 Each country shall designate a national coordinator and such alternates as it may deem necessary.

4.3 The national coordinators shall meet on a regular basis twice a year, before each Meeting of Ministers for Foreign Affairs, and shall meet on an extraordinary basis as required.

4.4 As a rule, meetings of national coordinators shall be held in the country hosting the Presidency pro tempore, unless otherwise decided at the proposal of that country and in consultation with the member States.

4.5 The meetings shall be responsible for:

(a) Coordinating at the national level on issues of unity, dialogue and regional political consensus-building that are of interest for the CELAC agenda;

(b) Liaising and coordinating on issues of unity, consensus-building and political dialogue;

(c) Liaising and coordinating on programmes, projects and initiatives for integration, cooperation and development;

(d) Adopting the relevant provisions to implement the decisions of the Summit of Heads of State and Government and the resolutions of the Meeting of Ministers for Foreign Affairs, with the support of the Presidency pro tempore;

(e) Conducting the preparatory process for the Meetings of Ministers for Foreign Affairs;

(f) Preparing draft declarations, decisions, resolutions and regulations for consideration at the Meeting of Ministers for Foreign Affairs;

(g) Coordinating CELAC initiatives with other regional and subregional integration processes in order to promote complementarity of efforts;

(h) Organizing, coordinating and monitoring the various working groups;

(i) Following up on political dialogue and consensus-building on issues of regional and international interest;

(j) Monitoring and coordinating specific cooperation and development projects originating in CELAC;

(k) Establishing open-ended working groups as needed, in compliance with the mandates and recommendations of the competent bodies;

(l) Ensuring that such groups report on the outcome of their work to the national coordinators, who shall transmit the information to the Meeting of Ministers for Foreign Affairs;

(m) Reviewing the outcomes of the meetings of regional and subregional integration mechanisms and submitting them for consideration to the Ministers for Foreign Affairs.

5. Special meetings

5.1 Areas of interest and other priority areas for the promotion of regional unity, integration and cooperation shall be addressed at special meetings, which shall be attended by senior officials with sufficient decision-making capacity to meet the objectives of CELAC.

5.2 The Presidency pro tempore shall convene such meetings in accordance with the provisions of the CELAC biennial work programme.

5.3 These meetings shall report on the outcome of their deliberations to the meetings of national coordinators, which shall transmit such reports to the Meeting of Ministers for Foreign Affairs.

5.4 If necessary, such meetings may be preceded by technical preparatory meetings.

6. Extended Troika

6.1 The Presidency pro tempore shall be assisted by an extended Troika consisting of the State acting as the President pro tempore, the State that previously held that responsibility and the State that will be the next to act as President pro tempore, plus a State member of CARICOM, represented by the State acting as its Chair.

6.2 The extended Troika shall be constituted automatically each time a member State is elected to act as President pro tempore of CELAC.

II. Decisions

1. Decisions shall be taken by consensus in all CELAC bodies.

2. Decisions shall be documented in writing and may take the form of declarations, decisions, joint and special communiqués, resolutions or any other instrument decided upon by mutual agreement. All decisions shall be in the nature of political agreements and shall constitute mandates.

III. Emergency consultation mechanism

1. In order to issue statements in an expeditious and timely manner in the case of unforeseen events requiring urgent attention from CELAC, the Presidency pro tempore or any member State, through the Presidency pro tempore, may propose a draft declaration or draft communiqué for adoption. The Presidency pro tempore shall circulate the text to the members of the extended Troika, which shall issue an opinion as to the appropriateness of issuing a statement on a given topic. If the extended Troika's opinion is in the affirmative, all the member States, through the national coordinators, shall consider and reach consensus on the draft declaration or draft communiqué. If possible, at least 12 hours shall be allowed for consultations between the Presidency pro tempore and the extended Troika and another 12 hours for consultations with member States. Such consultations shall be conducted in accordance with the principle that an absence of comments or objections during the specified time period shall constitute tacit approval of the proposal.

2. It shall be the duty of the Presidency pro tempore to address such a request made by a member State.

IV. Links with other regions

1. CELAC shall have the following responsibilities in the Community's relationships and dialogue with other countries and regional groups:

1.1 Political dialogue with other intergovernmental actors and international organizations and mechanisms;

1.2 Coordination of common positions in multilateral forums to promote and advance the interests of the Latin American and Caribbean community in relation to issues on the international agenda;

1.3 Promotion of the Latin American and Caribbean agenda in global forums;

1.4 Positioning of Latin America and the Caribbean in relation to important events;

1.5 The Presidency pro tempore shall coordinate the annual dialogues with other regional blocs and countries that play a leading role in the international community.

2. CELAC shall constitute the representative mechanism of Latin America and the Caribbean and, as such, shall be responsible for dialogue in the following forums, without prejudice to its participation in such future forums as may be established:

2.1 European Union-Latin America and the Caribbean Summit;

2.2 Institutionalized Ministerial Meeting between the Rio Group and the European Union;

2.3 Dialogues previously conducted by the Rio Group with countries or groups of countries in the context of meetings held in parallel with those of the United Nations General Assembly.

V. Languages

The official languages of CELAC shall be Dutch, English, French, Portuguese and Spanish. The working languages shall be English, French, Portuguese and Spanish.

VI. Amendments to the rules of procedure

Any member State may propose amendments to these rules of procedure by means of a written communication addressed by its Minister for Foreign Affairs to the Presidency pro tempore. Such proposals shall be considered at the Meeting of Ministers for Foreign Affairs, which shall transmit its recommendations to the Heads of State and Government for a decision.

VII. Incorporation of the historical legacy of the Rio Group and CALC

The historical heritage of CELAC shall comprise the declarations, joint and special communiqués, resolutions and other instruments embodying the decisions adopted during the Rio Group and Latin American and Caribbean Summit on Integration and Development processes. A list of CALC and Rio Group issues, declarations and documents, which constitute the historical legacy of those two mechanisms, is annexed to these rules of procedure.

VIII. Unification of the Rio Group and CALC

The Community of Latin American and Caribbean States (CELAC) shall be the successor, for all purposes, to the Permanent Mechanism for Consultation and Concerted Political Action (Rio Group) and the Latin American and Caribbean Summit on Integration and Development (CALC). Therefore, the Rio Group and CALC shall cease to function, without affecting the continuity of ongoing programmes and actions that have been agreed upon by the Rio Group and CALC.

IX. Transitional provisions

1. Until the expiry of the term set out in the Unity Summit Declaration, adopted in the Riviera Maya on 23 February 2010, the planned 2012 summit shall be held in

Chile, the country that shall act as the first President pro tempore of CELAC until that date.

2. The first Troika for the period 2011-2012 shall consist of the State that has been designated to act as President pro tempore for the period 2012-2013, the last State to have acted as Chair of the Rio Group and the last State to have acted as Chair of CALC.

3. With the adoption of these rules of procedure, the process of establishing CELAC is completed.

Resolution adopted at the first Meeting of Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States (CELAC) on special cooperation with the Republic of Haiti

Taking into consideration the report of the Presidency pro tempore on cooperation between CELAC and the Republic of Haiti,

Considering that CELAC and its member States have demonstrated a strong commitment to strengthening the values and principles of South-South cooperation with the Republic of Haiti with regard to its reconstruction and development,

Taking into consideration the special communiqué on solidarity with Haiti adopted by the Heads of State and Government at the third Summit of Latin America and the Caribbean on Integration and Development, at which we reaffirmed our strong commitment to continuing to contribute effectively to the efforts for Haiti's reconstruction and development, in accordance with the fundamental priorities and needs to be defined by the Government of the Republic of Haiti and with full respect for its authority and sovereignty and for the principle of non-intervention in internal affairs,

Bearing in mind that the Republic of Haiti has been deemed by the United Nations to be a least developed country and that, accordingly, its specific needs must be fully and continually taken into account,

Recommending that the member States redouble their efforts to help overcome the devastating consequences, which are still in evidence, of the earthquake that struck the Haitian people on 12 January 2010,

Considering that the priorities expressed by the Government of Haiti focus on the following areas:

1. Energy
2. Employment
3. Rule of law and State institution-building
4. Education
5. Environment
6. Eradication of hunger and extreme poverty
7. Health
8. Agriculture
9. Infrastructure,

Highlighting the express wish of the Government of Haiti that it should be responsible for the overall coordination of international, regional and bilateral technical and financial cooperation, in accordance with the priorities it has established,

The first Meeting of Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States (CELAC) decides:

1. To continue to deploy cooperation efforts in conjunction with the Haitian Government for the purpose of achieving comprehensive sustainable development in the priority areas set out above;

2. To request CELAC and its associated bodies to reflect in depth on the special situation of Haiti and to cooperate with its Government in a concrete manner to ensure that its "specific needs" are met as it pursues its development process;

3. To call on the States members of CELAC to support the Haitian Government in implementing the National Strategic Development Plan, in order to contribute towards sustainable development initiatives that enhance its people's quality of life and make the best and most efficient use of its potential;

4. To urge the States members of CELAC to report annually, where applicable, to the Presidency pro tempore on their collaboration and cooperation with the people and Government of Haiti and to meet regularly with the Government of Haiti in order to harmonize the actions undertaken for the benefit of that country and to receive information on the actions carried out through the cooperation provided in the framework of the present resolution;

5. To recommend that the Presidency pro tempore generate tools for the exchange of information with other regional mechanisms charged with the compilation of reports on cooperation initiatives in Haiti, in order to avoid duplication of effort in collecting this information.

Santiago, Chile, 28 January 2013

Special communiqué on the Malvinas Islands

1. The Heads of State and Government of Latin America and the Caribbean, gathered in Santiago, Chile, on 28 January 2013, in the context of the Summit of the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States (CELAC), reiterate in the strongest terms their support for the legitimate rights of the Argentine Republic in the sovereignty dispute over the Malvinas Islands, South Georgia Islands and South Sandwich Islands and the surrounding maritime areas and the abiding interest of the countries of the region in the resumption of negotiations by the Governments of the Argentine Republic and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland in order to find as soon as possible a peaceful and definitive solution to the dispute in accordance with the relevant pronouncements of the United Nations and the Organization of American States, as expressed in previous declarations of the Rio Group and the Summit of Latin America and the Caribbean on Integration and Development, in particular that of the Unity Summit, held in the Riviera Maya, Mexico, on 23 February 2010, which are part of the historical heritage of CELAC.

2. Furthermore, they reiterate the importance of observing the provisions of United Nations General Assembly resolution 31/49, which calls upon the two parties to refrain from taking decisions that would imply introducing unilateral modifications in the situation while the islands are going through the process recommended by the General Assembly.

3. They highlight the continuous constructive attitude and willingness of the Argentine Government to reach, through negotiations, a peaceful and definitive solution to this anachronistic colonial situation on American soil.

4. In this regard, the Heads of State and Government of the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States (CELAC) request the CELAC Troika to approach the United Nations Secretary-General, Mr. Ban Ki-moon, for an update on his progress in carrying out the mission of good offices entrusted to him by the General Assembly for the resumption of negotiations between Argentina and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland aimed at finding as soon as possible a peaceful solution to the sovereignty dispute relating to the question of the Malvinas Islands.

5. The Heads of State and Government of CELAC thank the Troika for its efforts.

Santiago, Chile, 28 January 2013

Special communiqué in support of combating terrorism in all its forms and manifestations

The Heads of State and Government of Latin America and the Caribbean, gathered in Santiago, Chile, on 28 January 2013, in the context of the Summit of the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States (CELAC),

Reiterate their total condemnation of all acts of terrorism as criminal and unjustifiable, and reaffirm their commitment to combating terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, in strict conformity with international law, international human rights standards and international humanitarian law, and to this end shall, inter alia, strengthen their national legislation wherever necessary and promote active and effective international cooperation to prevent, investigate, punish and eliminate all manifestations of this scourge. Moreover, they pledge to take measures to prevent, penalize and eliminate the financing and preparation of all terrorist acts and to deny safe haven to those who instigate, finance, perpetrate, sponsor or participate in terrorist activities, in accordance with the international legal framework, including the corresponding international conventions and the relevant resolutions of the United Nations General Assembly and Security Council;

Reaffirm their commitment to the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy, adopted in September 2006 and reviewed in 2008, 2010 and 2012, and reiterate their determination to apply the principles embodied in the Strategy and to implement all the measures provided for therein as the most effective way of ending the threat of terrorism while ensuring full adherence to the rule of law and respect for human rights. In addition, they welcome the work done by the Secretary-General's Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force in publicizing and coordinating the work of the United Nations system for the full implementation of the Strategy;

Reaffirm the need to ensure that those who commit terrorist acts do not go unpunished, and urge all States, in conformity with international law, to cooperate fully in combating terrorism, especially with States in whose territory or against whose citizens terrorist acts are committed, with a view to locating, capturing and denying safe haven to those who support or facilitate the financing, planning, preparation or commission of terrorist acts or the provision of safe havens, or who participate or intend to participate in such acts, and bringing them to justice on the basis of the principle *aut dedere aut judicare* and in keeping with their own domestic legislation;

Reject, as being inconsistent with international law, the unilateral compilation of blacklists accusing States of allegedly supporting and sponsoring terrorism;

Express their solidarity with the victims and families of victims of terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, wherever, by whomever and on whatever pretext such crimes are facilitated, committed, sponsored or financed;

Urge all States to ensure, in conformity with international law, that refugee status or asylum is not abused by those who finance, perpetrate, organize or sponsor terrorist acts, and that claims of political motivation are not recognized as grounds for refusing requests for the extradition of persons sought by justice systems for the purpose of determining their responsibility for terrorist acts;

Condemn the fact that the person responsible for the terrorist attack on a Cubana de Aviación aircraft in October 1976, which resulted in the deaths of 73 innocent civilians, has not been tried for terrorism, and support efforts to secure his extradition or prosecution;

Reaffirm the value of extradition as an essential tool for combating terrorism, and urge those States that have received terrorism-related extradition requests from States members of CELAC to give them due consideration, in strict compliance with the applicable legal framework;

Call upon all States that have not yet done so to consider becoming parties to all the counter-terrorism conventions and protocols as a matter of urgency, with a view to fulfilling all obligations thereunder, and to all international agreements that require them to provide legal assistance or to prosecute and punish in a prompt and appropriate manner those who finance, sponsor, participate in or commit terrorist acts, in strict conformity with international law and with due regard for human rights, international humanitarian law and the domestic legislation of each State, whether such acts are committed against persons, public or private means of freight or passenger transport, internationally protected persons, diplomatic missions, tourist sites or other public or private facilities;

Resolve to continue their efforts to take all necessary and appropriate measures, in accordance with their respective obligations under international law, to prohibit by law and prevent any incitement to commit terrorist acts;

Request States to cooperate, within the framework of the United Nations, with a view to the adoption of a comprehensive international counter-terrorism convention, and to resolve the outstanding issues that continue to obstruct the achievement of such a convention, including those related to the legal definition and scope of the acts to be covered by the convention, so that it may serve as an effective counter-terrorism instrument; and undertake to continue their active cooperation with the relevant bodies of the United Nations system in preventing and combating terrorism;

Reiterate their profound solidarity with the victims of terrorist acts, express their desire that such victims should receive the necessary support and note that it would be appropriate for the Secretary-General of the United Nations to follow up on the first international Symposium on Supporting Victims of Terrorism, held by the United Nations in 2008;

Resolve to work to establish, through the solidarity of the international community and within the framework of the United Nations, a practical mechanism for providing international assistance to the victims of terrorism.

Santiago, Chile, 28 January 2013

Special communiqué on the necessity of ending the economic, commercial and financial embargo imposed by the United States of America against Cuba

The Heads of State and Government of Latin America and the Caribbean, gathered in Santiago, Chile, on 28 January 2013, in the context of the Summit of the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States (CELAC), express in the strongest terms their rejection of the imposition, for political reasons, of coercive and unilateral economic measures against sovereign countries, as such measures impair the well-being of their peoples and are designed to prevent them from exercising their right to determine, of their own free will, their political, economic and social systems.

They reiterate in the strongest terms their condemnation of the application of laws and measures that contravene international law, such as the Helms-Burton Act, including the extraterritorial effects thereof, and urge the Government of the United States of America to end them.

Accordingly, they call on the Government of the United States of America, in accordance with the successive resolutions adopted by the United Nations General Assembly and the repeated calls by the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean, to put an end to the economic, commercial and financial embargo against Cuba, which is contrary to international law, inflicts extensive and unwarranted harm on the Cuban people and affects peace and harmonious relations among the nations of the Americas.

Santiago, Chile, 28 January 2013

Special communiqué on the anniversary of the birth of José Martí

The date of 28 January 2013 marks the 160th anniversary of the birth of José Martí, a leading figure in nineteenth-century Latin American and Caribbean thought, whose ideas remain fully relevant in this third millennium.

The work of Martí has a place in history alongside that of our region's illustrious leaders and thinkers, who laid the foundations and provided the inspiration for the integration process embodied by the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States (CELAC).

Accordingly, we, the Heads of State and Government of the Community, gathered in Santiago, Chile, on the occasion of the first CELAC Summit, call for the organization of commemorative events in honour of José Martí and recommend the issuance of publications of various kinds that will enable our citizens to discover the ideas and teachings of the most distinguished leaders and thinkers of Latin America and the Caribbean.

Santiago, Chile, 28 January 2013

Special communiqué on small island developing States

The Heads of State and Government of Latin America and the Caribbean, gathered in Santiago, Chile, on 27 and 28 January 2013, on the occasion of the first Summit of the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States (CELAC),

Endorsing the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20), which concluded on 22 June 2012 in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, with an agreement to move the international community's sustainable development agenda forward in the coming years, including provisions of particular importance to small island developing States,

Emphasizing that the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, held in Rio de Janeiro in June 1992 (Rio Conference), significantly strengthened the sustainable development paradigm that integrates the social, environmental and economic dimensions of development, giving equal weight to each,

Recognizing the particular vulnerabilities of the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) countries as small island developing States, which limit their sustainable development efforts, and considering the significant impact of natural disasters and the negative effects of climate change,

Recognizing the importance of the agreement reached at Rio+20 to convene a third International Conference on Small Island Developing States, to be held in Samoa in 2014, and affirming the commitment of the Caribbean small island developing States to the preparatory process for that Conference,

Reaffirming the continued validity of the Barbados Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States as the fundamental framework for their sustainable development,

Recognizing that special attention should be paid to building the resilience of small island developing States, including through support from the developed countries for the transfer of technology and development, as well as capacity-building and human resources development,

Urge the Latin American and Caribbean States to recognize and lend steadfast support to the sustainable development agenda through regional cooperation, a commitment to action in follow-up to the Rio+20 Conference, a sustainable approach to climate change, disaster mitigation and the full participation of small island developing States on the world stage.

Santiago, Chile, 28 January 2013

Special communiqué on the tradition of coca-leaf chewing

The Heads of State and Government of the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States (CELAC), on the occasion of the first Summit of Heads of State and Government of the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States (CELAC),

Recalling the special communiqué on the original and ancestral coca, part of the natural heritage of Bolivia and Peru, adopted at the Latin American and Caribbean Summit on 3 December 2011, in which traditional coca-leaf chewing (*akulliku*) is acknowledged to be an ancestral cultural expression of the peoples of Bolivia and Peru that should be respected by the international community,

Underlining the Caracas Declaration, which recognizes the multicultural nature of our peoples and the plurinational nature of some of our countries, especially of the indigenous communities that recreate and promote historical memory and ancestral knowledge and wisdom,

Reaffirming our commitment to support the cultural and ancestral practices of indigenous peoples within the framework of respect for human rights and the fundamental rights of indigenous peoples,

Acknowledge the re-accession of the Plurinational State of Bolivia to the 1961 Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs, as amended by the 1972 Protocol of amendment, and the fact that, in so doing, that country has abolished the prohibition of traditional uses of the coca leaf (*akulliku*) in its territory.

Santiago, Chile, 28 January 2013

Special communiqué on the International Year of Quinoa

The Heads of State and Government of Latin America and the Caribbean, gathered in Santiago, Chile, on 27 and 28 January 2013, in the context of the Summit of the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States (CELAC),

Welcome United Nations General Assembly resolution 66/221 declaring "2013 the International Year of Quinoa";

Welcome the decision of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) to designate His Excellency Mr. Evo Morales Ayma, President of the Plurinational State of Bolivia, and Ms. Nadine Heredia, First Lady of Peru, as FAO Special Ambassadors for the International Year of Quinoa;

Affirm that, owing to its nutritional value, quinoa plays a role in providing food security and nutrition and in the eradication of poverty and hunger, recognizing that Andean indigenous peoples, through their traditional knowledge and practices of living well, in harmony with nature, have maintained, controlled, protected and preserved quinoa in its natural state;

Reiterate the commitment they expressed at the last Summit to promote the cultivation of quinoa to combat hunger, highlighting the importance of disseminating information on the qualities of this nutritious food through support for research and development programmes;

And accordingly:

Express their commitment to participate in and contribute to the activities of the International Year of Quinoa by:

- Disseminating information on the qualities of this food as an alternative for mitigating hunger and poverty;
- Supporting programmes furthering research and development on this crop;
- Participating actively in international fairs and symposiums in order to promote its cultivation and consumption.

Santiago, Chile, 28 January 2013

Special communiqué on the tragedy in Santa Maria, Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil

We, the Heads of State and Government of the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States (CELAC), express our deepest sympathy to the Government and people of Brazil for the terrible tragedy that took the lives of over 200 young people and left dozens more injured as a consequence of the fire that broke out in Santa Maria, in the State of Rio Grande do Sul.

We further express our most heartfelt condolences to and solidarity with the families of the victims of this great tragedy.

Santiago, Chile, 28 January 2013